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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT

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Louisiana Crop Acreage

Louisiana rice and sugarcane farmers are feeling the aftereffects of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Rice acres will be the lowest on record due in part to salt water intrusion. Sugarcane acres were also affected by the salt water. Soybean and sorghum acres are down from the March intentions estimates, while corn acres are up.

Louisiana farmers planted an estimated total of 360,000 acres of **rice**, down 32 percent from 2005, and the lowest planted acreage on record. Long grain varieties are expected to account for 350,000 acres and medium grain for the remaining 10,000 acres.

Sugarcane acreage for harvest is estimated at 445,000 acres, down 10,000 acres from last year. This is the lowest harvested acres for sugar and seed since 1998, when the state harvested 435,000 acres.

Cotton planted acreage is expected to total 660,000 acres, up 8 percent from last year and 32 percent more than in 2004.

Soybean planted acreage is expected to total 820,000 acres, 60,000 acres fewer than last year and 130,000 acres below the March 1 intentions.

Corn planted acreage, at 300,000 acres, is down 40,000 acres, or 12 percent from a year ago. This is the lowest planted acreage since 1995, when the state planted 230,000 acres.

Grain sorghum planted acreage, at 80,000 acres, is down 10,000 acres or 11 percent from 2005. This is the lowest planted acreage since 1980, when the state planted 32,000 acres.

Sweet potato planted acreage, at 19,000 acres, is up 1,000 acres from a year ago.

An estimated 110,000 acres were planted to **winter wheat**, the same as a year ago. Of these, an estimated 100,000 acres were harvested for grain.

All \mathbf{hay} acreage intended for harvest is estimated at 350,000 acres, unchanged from 2005.

United States Crop Acreage

Rice: Area planted to rice in 2006 is estimated at 2.91 million acres, 14 percent below last year's planted acreage. Area for harvest is estimated at 2.90 million acres, also 14 percent below last year's area harvested. All rice-producing states except Missouri planted fewer acres than last year. The decline in acreage from last year is attributed to higher fuel, fertilizer and irrigation costs. Long grain planted acreage, representing 78 percent of the total, is down 17 percent from last year. Medium grain planted acreage, representing 20 percent of the total, increased 1 percent from 2005. Area planted to short grain varieties decreased 5 percent and represents 2 percent of the total rice acres planted in 2006.

Sugarcane: Area for harvest for sugar and seed during the 2006 crop year is estimated at 921,900 acres, virtually unchanged from a year ago. Area for harvest in Louisiana is down 10,000 acres from last year, while Florida growers expect to harvest 7,000 acres more than last year's hurricane-damaged crop.

Cotton: The U.S. planted area for all cotton in 2006 is estimated at 15.3 million acres, up 7 percent from 2005. Upland cotton acreage totaled 14.9 million acres, up 7 percent from last year. By the end of May, 93 percent of the crop had been planted, 4 percentage points above last year and 6 points ahead of the 5-year average. The Delta region (Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee) planted 4.21 million acres of upland cotton, up 6 percent from last year.

Soybeans: The 2006 soybean planted area is estimated at 74.9 million acres, up 4 percent from last year and the second largest on record. Area planted increased or was unchanged from last year in 20 of the 31 major soybean producing states. Area for harvest is forecast at 73.9 million acres, up 4 percent from 2005.

Corn: The 2006 corn planted area for all purposes is estimated at 79.4 million acres, down 3 percent from 2005 and 2 percent below 2004. Growers expect to harvest 72.1 million acres for grain, down 4 percent from 2005. Farmers responding to the survey indicated that 99 percent of the intended corn acreage had been planted at the time of the interview, compared with the average of 98 percent for the past 10 years.

Planted Acreage, June 1, 2006

1 failted Acreage, June 1, 2000								
Сгор		Louisiana		United States				
	2005	2006	%Change	2005	2006	% Change		
	Thousand Acres			Thousand Acres				
Corn	340	300	-12	81,759	79,366	-3		
Upland Cotton	610	660	+8	13,975	14,940	+7		
Rice, All	530	360	-32	3,384	2,913	-14		
Sorghum	90	80	-11	6,454	6,282	-3		
Soybeans	880	820	-7	72,142	74,930	+4		
Sweet Potatoes	18	19	+6	91.0	96.0	+5		
Winter Wheat	110	110		40,433	41,393	+2		
Hay ¹	350	350		61,649	62,697	+2		
Sugarcane ^{1,2}	455	445	-2	922.6	921.9			

¹ Harvested Acres

² For sugar and seed

Sorghum: Area planted to sorghum in 2006 is estimated at 6.28 million acres, down 3 percent from 2005. This is the lowest acreage since records began in 1929. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 5.32 million acres, down 7 percent from last year. Sorghum acres planted decreased from last year in 8 states, but increased in 10 states. Although Kansas continues to have the largest area of sorghum planted, at 2.50 million acres, the Kansas acreage is down 9 percent from 2005.

Sweet potatoes: Planted acreage of sweet potatoes is estimated at 96,000 acres for the 2006 season, up 5 percent from last year but down 1 percent from 2 years ago. Farmers increased plantings 1,800 acres from their March intentions. Harvested area is forecast at 93,400 acres, up 6 percent from 2005 and 1 percent above 2004. The acreage increase is due mainly to higher prices and good planting conditions.

Winter Wheat: The 2006 winter wheat planted area is estimated at 41.4 million acres, 2 percent above last year but virtually unchanged from the previous estimate. Area harvested for grain is estimated at 31.1 million acres, down slightly from the June 1 forecast and down 8 percent from last year.

Hay: Producers expect to harvest 62.7 million acres of all hay in 2006, up 2 percent from 2005. Harvested acreage for alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures is forecast at 22.4 million acres, up fractionally from last year. All other hay harvested area is expected to total 40.3 million acres, up 2 percent from a year earlier.

Louisiana and U.S. Grain Stocks, June 1, 2005-2006

Item	Louis	siana ¹	United States		
	Jur	ne 1	June 1		
	2005 2006		2005	2006	
	Thousan	d Bushels	Thousand Bushels		
Corn					
On Farm			2,462,300	2,350,500	
Off Farm ²	<u>14,424</u>	<u>11,060</u>	<u>1,858,513</u>	<u>2,012,020</u>	
TOTAL			4,320,813	4,362,520	
Sorghum					
On Farm			16,000	12,650	
Off Farm ²	<u>658</u>	<u>1,377</u>	<u>97,170</u>	<u>94,696</u>	
TOTAL			113,170	107,346	
Soybeans					
On Farm			356,100	495,500	
Off Farm ²	<u>1,229</u>	<u>4,139</u>	<u>343,174</u>	<u>494,640</u>	
TOTAL	<u> </u>		699,274	990,140	
All Wheat					
On Farm			161,275	111,010	
Off Farm ²	5,508	<u>3,870</u>	<u>378,825</u>	<u>456,833</u>	
TOTAL			540,100	567,843	

¹ Louisiana on-farm stocks and total stocks not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

Louisiana Grain Stocks

Total off-farm sorghum stocks were estimated at 1.38 million bushels, compared to 658,000 bushels in 2005.

Off-farm holdings of corn totaled 11.1 million bushels, down 23 percent from 2005.

All wheat off-farm stocks totaled 3.87 million bushels, compared to 5.51 million bushels in 2005.

Total off-farm Soybean stocks were estimated at 4.14 million bushels, compared to 1.23 million bushels in 2005.

United States Grain Stocks

Corn stocks in all positions on June 1, 2006 totaled 4.36 billion bushels, up 1 percent from June 1, 2005. Of the total stocks, 2.35 billion bushels are stored on farms, down 5 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 2.01 billion bushels, are up 8 percent from a year ago.

Soybeans stored in all positions on June 1, 2006 totaled 990 million bushels, up 42 percent from June 1, 2005. This is the largest June 1 stocks level on record, exceeding the previous record set in 1986 by 17 percent. On-farm stocks totaled 496 million bushels, up 39 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 495 million bushels, are up 44 percent from the previous year.

All wheat stored in all positions on June 1, 2006 totaled 568 million bushels, up 5 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 111 million bushels, down 31 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 457 million bushels, are up 21 percent from a year ago.

Grain sorghum stored in all positions on June 1, 2006 totaled 107 million bushels, down 5 percent from a year ago. Onfarm stocks, at 12.7 million bushels, are down 21 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 94.7 million bushels, are down 3 percent from June 1, 2005.

² Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors.

Louisiana Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production in Louisiana during May totaled 700,000 pounds, the same as last month, but down 22 percent from the previous year.

There were 800 head of **cattle** slaughtered during May, up 100 head from April, but 200 head below the previous year. Average live weight was 787 pounds, down 91 pounds from the previous month and 116 pounds below May 2005. Total live weight, at 643,000 pounds, was 2 percent above the previous month, but 25 percent below the previous year.

Calves slaughtered during May totaled 200 head, down 100 head from April and 200 head below the previous year. Live weight averaged 498 pounds, down 23 pounds from April, but 7 pounds above May 2005. Total live weight, at 121,000 pounds, was down 29 percent from April and 43 percent below the previous year.

The number of **hogs** slaughtered during May totaled 1,500 head, unchanged from April and the previous year. Average live weight was 193 pounds, up 5 pounds from April and the previous year. Total live weight was 293,000 pounds, up 5 percent from April and 6 percent above a year ago.

The number of **sheep** slaughtered during May was 100 head, unchanged from April and the previous year. Live weight averaged 80 pounds, down 12 pounds from the previous month and 17 pounds below the previous year.

United States Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.05 billion pounds in May, up 9 percent from the 3.71 billion pounds produced in May 2005.

May 2006 contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays. May 2005 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.30 billion pounds, was 11 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.04 million head, up 9 percent from May 2005. The average live weight was up 19 pounds from the previous year, at 1,241 pounds.

Veal production totaled 13.1 million pounds, 1 percent below May a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 57,000 head, down 3 percent from May 2005. The average live weight was 2 pounds above last year, at 378 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.72 billion pounds, up 7 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.54 million head, 6 percent above May 2005. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 271 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 16.3 million pounds, was up 10 percent from May 2005. Sheep slaughter totaled 225,800 head, 9 percent above last year. The average live weight was 144 pounds, up 1 pound from May a year ago.

January to May 2006 commercial red meat production was 19.1 billion pounds, up 5 percent from 2005. Accumulated beef production was up 7 percent from last year; veal was down 5 percent; pork was up 2 percent from last year; and lamb and mutton production was up 4 percent.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter and Meat Production

Commercial Livestock Staughter and Vicat I roduction									
	Louisiana				United States				
	April	May		January - May		May		January – May	
Item	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	Number, thousand head					Number, thousand head			
Cattle	0.7	1.0	0.8	6.0	3.5	2,793.3	3,038.7	12,949.7	13,486.2
Calves	0.3	0.4	0.2	2.1	1.5	58.5	57.0	317.7	272.3
Hogs	1.5	1.5	1.5	9.1	7.9	8,031.7	8,537.0	42,014.4	42,697.1
Sheep & Lambs	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.8	0.7	208.1	225.8	1,132.5	1,150.1
	Total live weight, thousand pounds					Total live weight, thousand pounds			
Cattle	633	862	643	5,309	2,935	3,414,554	3,771,115	16,029,123	17,045,581
Calves	171	213	121	1,071	831	21,999	21,578	108,561	101,109
Hogs	280	276	293	1,816	1,598	2,166,713	2,316,699	11,353,965	11,621,192
Sheep & Lambs	10	11	11	88	73	29,664	32,516	158,286	164,236
	Average live weight, pounds					Average live weight, pounds			
Cattle	878	903	787	885	839	1,222	1,241	1,238	1,264
Calves	521	491	498	510	554	376	378	342	371
Hogs	188	188	193	200	202	270	271	270	272
Sheep & Lambs	92	97	80	110	104	143	144	140	143
	Million pounds				Million pounds				
Red Meat	0.7	0.9	0.7	5.4	3.6	3,713.5	4,049.1	18,283.1	19,149.3

Prices Received Index Unchanged

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in June, at 118 based on 1990-92=100, increased 3 points from May. The Crop Index is down 2 points, but the Livestock Index increased 6 points. Producers received higher commodity prices for broilers, sweet corn, hogs and broccoli. Lower prices were received for lettuce, cantaloupe, corn and strawberries. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average marketings of wheat, grapes, hay and cantaloupes offset decreased marketings of oranges, tomatoes, strawberries and sweet corn.

The Preliminary All Farm Products Index is down 1 point from June 2005. The Food Commodities Index, at 119, decreased 3 points from last month but decreased 2 points from June 2005.

Prices Paid Index Unchanged

The June Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates is 147 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index is unchanged from May but 6 points above June 2005. Lower prices in June for nitrogen fertilizers, hay and forages, complete feeds and feed grains, were offset by higher prices for LP gas, feeder cattle, self-propelled machinery and herbicides.

Average Prices Received By Farmers

		Louisiana	a	United States				
	Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire	Entire Month			
Item	June 2005	May 2006	June 2006 ¹	June 2005	May 2006	June 2006 ¹		
	Dollars				Dollars			
Soybeans, per bushel	6.92	5.85	5.77	6.58	5.68	5.57		
Rice, per cwt	7.21	8.40	8.51	6.96	7.96	8.05		
Upland Cotton, per pound	<u>2/</u>	.455	.4633	.419	.468	$.469^{3}$		
Hay, all, baled, per ton	n/a	n/a	n/a	102.00	114.00	109.00		
Beef Cattle, per cwt ⁴	70.70	62.10	60.00	88.00	82.20	84.00		
Steers & Heifers, per cwt	106.00	112.00	100.00	91.50	86.50	88.40		
Cows, per cwt ⁵	54.80	45.10	42.00	56.80	47.50	46.10		
Calves, per cwt	125.00	118.00	116.00	140.00	132.00	132.00		
Broilers, live, per pound	n/a	n/a	n/a	.440	.340	.390		
Eggs, All, per dozen	n/a	n/a	n/a	.452	.439	.563		
Milk, All, per cwt ⁶	n/a	n/a	n/a	14.40	12.00	12.10		

¹ Mid-month.

n/a = not available.

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² Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

³ Preliminary prices are based on sales during the first half of the month.

⁴ "Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined.

⁵ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

⁶ Before deductions for hauling and government withholdings. Includes bulk tank, quantity and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.